

# Present Situation and Future Prospect of Textile Chemistry and Textile Engineering Education in Germany

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The demand of German textile and textile machinery industry for engineers and chemists graduating from universities (Universitäten, Technische Hochschulen) and polytechnics (Fachhochschulen) can actually hardly be accomplished, due to various reasons ; the textile field has in Germany a bad image since it has the reputation to be not at all "high technology", to pay lower salaries than many other industrial branches and to have a long record of spectacular bankruptcies. On the other hand the proportion of highly qualified staff members has to be raised steadily to fulfill the ever increasing demands of process and product innovations in German textile industry. The third reason for the actual "engineer gap" is an unfavourable age structure in textile industry giving rise to a high extra demand of textile engineers and chemists.

Having in view this background, the seminary will demonstrate the German system for textile engineering and textile chemistry education, its interconnection with textile research as well as its position in German scientific infrastructure in general.